



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Timothy R. Ryan et al. Examiner: William H. Matthews  
Serial No.: 09/982,299 Group Art Unit: 3738  
Filed: October 16, 2001 Docket No.: M190.137.101  
**Due Date:** **January 23, 2004 (w/ extension)**  
Title: ANNULOPLASTY BAND AND METHOD

# 10  
Tree Limbs B  
S. Bixler  
2/6/04

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed September 23, 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**RECEIVED**  
**JAN 30 2004**

**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**